Statement

Important steps taken for promotion of Social Forestry during the Seventh Plan period

1. Afforestation work, including Social Forestry, has been made a thrust area by including it as a specific item under the 20-Point Programme.

2. Guidelines have been issued to the States from time to time to promote Social Forestry.

3. For stepping up the pace of work, higher targets have been fixed each year, as a result of which the achievement during the last four years of the Seventh Plan (1985-86 to 1988-89) has been 7.16 million hectares, as against only 4.65 million hectares during the entire Sixth Plan Period (1980-85) and 3.56 million hectares from 1950 to 1980. By the end of the Seventh Plan, it is expected that the total achievement in the five-year period would be about 9.0 million hectares.

4. Plan outlays have been increased. In the last four years (1985-86 to 1988-89), the total allocations for all afforestation activities, including Social Forestry, were Rs. 2038 crores as against only Rs. 926 crores during the entire Sixth Plan period (1980-85) and Rs. 241 crores from 1950 to 1980. The allocation for 1989-90 is Rs. 400 crores excluding the Social Forestry coverage under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana through the Panchayats.

5. Under the rural employment schemes (NREP and RLEGP) earmarking of funds for Social Forestry were increased to 25 per cent.

6. New and innovative Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been introduced for promoting Decentralised People's Nurseries, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects, Minor Forests Produce Plantations, Silvipasture Development and Seed Development.

7. Social Forestry Projects with assistance from foreign donors like the World Bank, SIDA, etc. have been taken up in 14 States of the country.

8. For promoting people's participation many projects have been taken up through the Voluntary Agencies in different parts of the country.

9. Institutional finance for social forestry projects is being mobilised through NABARD. Tree Growers' Cooperatives are being organised in 8 States.

10. A number of studies, workshops and seminars have been organised. Special attention is also being given to extension activities.

Nonpayment of excise duty by 'Zarda' and 'Pan Massala' manufacturers

1151. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some registered 'Zarda' and 'Pan Masala' manfacturers in the capital are not paying the excise duty regularly and misleading Government about their production figures;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken against them; and

(c) what are the details of the 'Zarda' and 'Pan Masala' manufactures and their turnover and excise duty payments particularly by M/s Harichand Shri Gopal, New Delhi and the manufacturers of Bawa Zarda, New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The relevant details of the major manufacturers of 'Zarda' and 'Pan Masala' in Delhi including the two referred to in part (c) of the Question are given below:—

Name of the Party	Year	Turnover (Rs)	Excise duty paid (Rs)
Zarda Manufacturers			
1. M/s. Dharam Pal Prem Chand Ltd. Delhi (Manufacturer of Bawa Zarda)	1988-89	19,57,62,948.20	5,07,76,015.00
2. M/s Hari Chand Shri Gopal, Delhi	1988-89	4,45,24,348.00	1,15,48,503.00
3. Prabhat Zarda Factory, Delhi	1988-89	4,76,69,218.00	1,23,65,241.00
Pan Masala Manufacturers			
1. M/s Jagat Pal Prem Chand, Delhi	1988-89	2,97,48,255.00	76,68,851.00
2. M/s K. K. Karyalaya Delhi	1988-89	21,01 958.00	2,51,820.00
3. M/s Crystal Aromatic Delhi	1988-89	29,47,654.00	4,61,023.00

Examination of irrigation facilities in the Phulbani district, Orissa

1152. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to expand irrigation facilities to the tribal backward and drought-prone areas;

(b) whether Phulbani district in Orissa has been declared as a tribal, backward and drought-prone district;

(c) if so, what are the details of the irrigation facilities provided to that district during the Seventh Plan period; and

(d) what are the details of the schemes under implementation in that district at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In Phulbani district of Orissa, Pillasalki medium irrigation project wth ultimate irrigation potential of 9.59 th. ha. has been completed and Bondapipli irrigation project with ultimate irrigation potential of 380 th. ha. is under construction. In addition, there are a number of minor irrigation schemes, district-wise details of which will be available at State level.

12.00 Noon

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that I have received a letter from Shri R. K. Narayan to the effect that he is going abroad and he is unable to attend the current Session. He has accordingly requested for the grant of leave of absence from all the sittings of the House during the current Session. Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri R. K. Narayan for remaining absent from all the sittings of the House during